Compensation Claimed by 13th Chogyal of Sikkim

242. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the 13th Chogyal -of Sikkim has claimed an amount of Rs. 110 crores as compensation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what action Government contemplate in that regard;

(d) whether any high level committee has been constituted to go into details of the claim; and

(e) if so, the details of such body and its meetings, etc?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (e) Late Shri P.T. Namgyal, Ex-Chogyal of Sikkim, had submitted his claims regarding private estate, private proporties, palace and other properties owned/possessed by him., An inter Ministerial team of Officers of the Ministry of Home, Finance and Law has been set up to consider the various claims and submit recommendations to the Government. The team has had four meetings so far.

Arrest of ISI-Tralncd Bangladeshi National

243. PROF, VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Bangladeshi national, trained by ISI to carry out explosions in the capital and various parts of the country, was arrested in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether co-operation of the adjoining countries which are being used as hideouts by ISI and other such elements, has been sought; if so, with what response?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The said Bangladeshi national was arrested Delhi Police recently and two Kgs. of RDX alongwith five detonators were recovered from him. His interrogation also led to arrest of several of his associates.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government have been assured by several neighbouring countries that they will not allow negative elements to use their territory for activities prejudicial to the interests of India.

Crimes in Delhi

244. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, despite all assurances of security and declarations by Government for maintenance of law and order, free from fear, for citizens of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, the spate of murders, robberies and dacoities in Delhi and areas around it continued in December,m 1998 and months following it;

(b) if so, the number of such crimes in and around Delhi in each month since December, 1998 and the comparative figures for corresponding months during the preceding year;'and

(c) the effective steps taken to prevent and effectively curb crimes in the National Capital?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Whereas the number of cases of murder registered a significant decrease from 51 in December, 1998 to 33 in January, 1999 and of robbery from 91 in December, 1998 to 65 in January, 1999,

the number of cases of dacoity registerd during December, 1998 was 6 as compared to 7 in January, 1999. The figures for the corresponding months of the preceding year were as follows:

	December, 1998	January, 1997
Murder	45	52
Robbery	41	49
Dacoity	4	3

(c) The stepstaken to effectively combat the crime in Delhi include inten-sificaiton of beat patrolling; high visibility of police in vulnerabel areas; surveillance over the activities of known criminals; improvement in intelligence gathering in-cluding exchange of information about criminals through periodic Inter-State Crime Coordination meetings; etc.

ULFA threat to oil wells in Assam

245. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attenton has been drawn to the latest threat of ULFA not to allow oil from new wells in Assam out of the State and to blow them if it is allowed to go out; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government and the Oil industry have been advised to tighten security and take necessary precautionary measures.

Penson benefits to widows of freedom fighters

246. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules with respect to widows of freedom fighters receiving pension be nefits after demise of their husbands;

(b) whether it is a fact that delay usually occurs in release of pensions to widows of freedom fighters;

(c) whether any representations in this regard from West Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh are pending; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Under the provisions of the Scheme, widows of deceased freedom fighter pensioners are entitled to family pension till their death or remarriage, whichever is earlier. They are required to apply for family pension to the Pension Disbursing Officer (Bank Manager or District Treasury Officer),in the prescribed format, with the requisite documents, such as, original copy of the Pension Payment Order (PPO), death certificate, certificate or affidavit indicating the applicant's relationship with the deceased freedom fighter, etc. Thereafter, the pension is trans-ffcred to the widow after the Pension Disbursing Officer is satisfied about the bona fide of the claim.

(b) Usually, no dealy occurs in respect of cases where all the requisite formalities arc complied by the applicants.

(c) Representations received in this regard arc attended to promptly. No such representation is pending.

(d) Does not arise.